

confess I know no more effective than that proposed by Mr. Glass in his advocacy of the Henry George theory. But that is an end not desired by the American people who believe in the home and in individual ownership of a place to build it.

REPLY BY MR. GLASS.

Mr. Bell's argument has followed a line which I am very glad to answer. It is one of the most common objections offered to the single-tax, that it would be a tax on the farmers. Now, the value of farms in this country being only one-third of the value of all the real estate in this country, if all taxes were levied upon real estate, then the farm lands of the country would pay only one-third of the taxes of the country.

Remember, too, that a third at least of the farm property in the country is owned by landlords and that the exclusive tax on land values would reach the landlords and could not be shifted upon the tenants.

I take Mr. Bell as a believer in the equal rights of all men to the use of the earth or to natural opportunities. But if we are to recognize this right, in what way can it be so recognized except by each one paying annually to the public in taxation for that portion of the earth's surface which he uses. How can you adjust it by limiting land ownership. You can not divide the land and recognize this principle of equal rights because each child born has the same equal right to the use of the earth as those born before him, and to recognize the right there would have to be a new division every time a child was born. Neither can you recognize it by limiting land ownership to a certain number of acres. It does not require the ownership of many acres in the center of Chicago or New York to make a man the possessor of a fabulous fortune. It is entirely an error in discussing the land question to consider it as only applying to farmers. The evils of land monopoly are as apparent in the city as in the country. I fully concur with Mr. Bell in his wish to see a nation of small farmers and small homesteads.

Mr. Bell says the Henry George theory might be used to compel men who had more than a certain amount of land to divest themselves of it. I thank him for the admission but I change the wording and say it would compel men to part with land they could not use. Land should be put to its best use. The best use for a business lot is to put a business house on it. For a residential lot, to build a home. For farm lands, to build houses and barns, to plant orchards and vineyards, to raise fruit, grain and vegetables, to grow cattle and horses and all things useful and desirable.

"Land needs no protection," but the landlord and owner of land has plenty of protection and should pay for it. "All would want to give up ownership of land and go to producing personal property not subject to taxation." That is to say that there would be no profit in owning land but would be in producing things from land, because all personal property is produced from labor applied to land. This seems to me to be a result desirable in every way, and not to be afraid of. As to indirect taxation, space forbids anything except to quote Colbert's saying that it is the best way to pluck a goose without making him cry, and the American public has so far shown a great many qualities of the goose.

PREPARING FOR SUFFRAGE.

Sophia's Desire to Get Posted Mars Their Domestic Felicity.

NO. III.

BY CON HEALY.

"Now," said she, as she seated herself opposite her husband, "I am ready for another lesson on the tariff. You promised last night that you would try to make me understand how the foreigner pays the tax. I have been thinking about it all day and I can't make it out. I used to be good at working out puzzles but that beats all of them."

"You can grasp this, can't you?" he replied with an air of superiority, "that if a foreigner brings \$100 worth of goods and the tariff is \$50 he pays \$50 into the United States treasury before he can land them."

"Yes, I can grasp that. But if the goods were worth only \$100 and he had to pay \$50 tariff before he could land them, he would have to sell them for \$150 to get out clear. Then if you bought the goods they would cost you \$150; so you see he collected the \$50 back off of you. Do you grasp that?" "The point is this. If it wasn't for that tariff he would sell the goods here for \$100 and undersell the American manufacturer. That's the great feature of the tariff that you don't understand."

"No, it isn't. You are dodging the question. What I want to understand is how the foreigner pays the tax."

"If it wasn't for the tariff the foreigner would put the goods up to \$150 anyway, so they would cost us just as much, and the \$50 wouldn't be in the United States treasury."

"Didn't you say a moment ago that if it wasn't for the tariff he would sell them for \$100 and undersell the American?"

"Now, you see," and he commenced to bluster and squirm, "you see where women are unfitted for politics. They want to quibble over some little point. The tariff is a broad question and must be considered in a broad way. The main object of the tariff is to protect the farmer and the manufacturer from the competition of the pauper labor of Europe."

"What does this country want protection for?"

"The reason is this: No other country pays its laborers as high wages as this country does; therefore, it costs more to produce everything."

"If we had free trade, then, everything would be cheap. That would be nice for those that have to buy. I believe I would vote for free trade."

"That's just like a silly woman; jump at conclusions before you understand the question. While tariff keeps up prices it keeps up wages, too."

"Does tariff keep up prices?"

"Certainly, it does."

"O, I see now how the foreigner pays the tax. When we sell to them we charge them a big price on account of our tariff and we get it back on them in that way."

"No, you don't. That's entirely another question. The foreigner buys wherever he can get things the cheapest."

"Well, I just don't care. I think we had ought to have that right, too. If we have something to sell in some other country, don't we get a higher price because it costs more to produce it here?"

"No, not a bit."

"But then we can make up for that, can't we, by buying things that we want cheap in foreign countries where they don't pay big wages?"

"No. By the time we brought those

goods here and paid the tariff, they would be just as dear, or dearer, than goods bought at home."

"I think that is real mean. Why not take the tariff off and let us buy cheap where we have to sell cheap."

"You see, my dear, wages must be kept up. The tariff simply represents the difference between wages in this and foreign countries. So we ought to be satisfied to pay a little more for what we buy, just so wages are high, and times are good all around."

"Are wages high now, and times good all around?"

Well, hardly. But if the tariff was off wages would go down where they are in Europe."

"Why don't Europe have tariff?"

"They have in some countries."

"Are wages good in those countries?"

"No, I believe not."

"Does making wages high protect the manufacturer?"

"No; but you see he gets a better price for his goods, so he can afford to pay better wages."

"Is there just tariff enough to make up for the extra wages?"

"That's the intention of the republican party."

"Well, here are some figures that I would like to have you explain. In the past ten years the forty-nine sugar refineries in this country refined 16,500,000 tons of sugar, and paid in wages 50 million dollars. The protection that the sugar refiners had amounted to 546 million dollars. That would be \$10.45 protection for every dollar paid in wages. Now, that looks to me as if every time an American refiner paid \$1 in wages we paid \$10.45 more for sugar than we would if we had free trade. Am I right?"

"I don't know, but—"

"Wait. I have another item here that interests me. I see that the carpet mills of this country produced in one year 25 million dollars worth of carpets, and had 9 million dollars protection on their products, while there were only 7 million dollars paid out for wages. Now, then, you say that the tariff represents the difference in wages between this and other countries, according to that, the foreign laborers would have made those carpets for 2 million dollars less than nothing."

"Let me see those figures. They must be democratic."

"No, they are right here in a government report. It makes me mad to think of it. Here we are using an old shoddy carpet and paying 90 cents to protect a carpet manufacturer for every 70 cents that he pays for labor. We pay all his laborers and make him a present of 20 cents besides."

"You see, my dear, it has always been the policy of the republican party to—"

"O, hang the republican party if that has always been its policy."

"Have patience, now. Don't fly all to pieces. Let me explain. As I was going to say, the infant industries of the country must be protected."

"Infant industries, indeed! I think they have cut their eye-teeth, anyway. It is the people who are the infants. How old does an industry have to be before it gets over being an infant?"

"It is the policy of the republican party to foster those industries till they get built up, and we have a home market established."

"How long has it had that policy?"

"For about thirty-five years."

"Has the tariff been getting lower all that time?"

"No, higher."

Life Was a Burden

Because of the intense pains in my stomach and side, and also on account of gall stones.

After eating I would be in great distress. I became so reduced in flesh that my friends thought I would not live long. I grew worse and my removal to a hospital in Syracuse was under advisement, when my father had me give Hood's Sarsaparilla a trial. There was an improvement at once and I have continued taking it, until I am now well. I have gained in flesh and can eat



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Wages, too?"

"Well, no. That is—I—but—"

"It don't seem to work, then, does it?"

"The interest of the laborer demands that the tariff be kept up."

"Have you forgotten those figures that I showed you a moment ago? You seem to grasp an idea very well, but you don't seem to be able to let go. You have got into the habit of saying certain things, and you stick to it. I think you had better try to break yourself of the habit of saying that the foreigner pays the tax, and that the tariff represents the difference in wages. You vote against the tariff, don't you?"

"No, I do not. I am too good an American for that."

"Don't you think that you had better write another editorial? Write it about the manufacturer this time. You could use nearly the same words that you did in writing about women. You could say that the American manufacturer is a clinging vine that twines around the people and saps the life out of them. His weak and puny nature makes him the object of our most tender care and protection."

"O, come now, you are getting too smart. Hadn't you better go to the kitchen?"

"Just in a moment! I simply want to say that I have learned enough about this great issue, tariff. I have jumped at one conclusion and that is that a blubbering, big infant of 30 that has to be protected ought to be spanked. I think we had better look out for the interest of the babies in our own families first. If the finance issue is as simple and amusing as the tariff, I would like to take a lesson on that if you will give it to me."

"I'll think about it."

"Well, good-night. Be careful, you are sticking your heel through that protected carpet."

(To be continued.)

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